

St Mary's Playgroup (Tetbury)

Christchurch Hall, The Chipping, Tetbury, Gloucestershire, GL8 8EU



Inspection date

30 November 2015

Previous inspection date

21 January 2015

The quality and standards of the early years provision	This inspection:	Good	2
	Previous inspection:	Requires Improvement	3
Effectiveness of the leadership and management		Good	2
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment		Good	2
Personal development, behaviour and welfare		Good	2
Outcomes for children		Good	2

Summary of key findings for parents

This provision is good

- Management and staff offer children a wide range of exciting and challenging opportunities to learn. All children are motivated to learn and eager to investigate the environment around them. They make good progress from their initial starting points.
- Management and staff are good role models. Children behave well and build positive friendships. They are praised for their manners and are polite, sociable, considerate and respectful of each other.
- Partnerships with parents are good. Management and staff regularly share information about children's progress with parents and suggest ideas of how learning can be further supported at home.
- Management provides effective leadership. All previous actions and recommendations have been successfully addressed, such as documenting Disclosure and Barring Service checks. Management uses accurate self-evaluation and well-targeted action plans to help continuously improve practice.

It is not yet outstanding because:

- Occasionally, management and staff miss opportunities to extend children's learning and challenge their thoughts and ideas during play.
- Children do not always have opportunities to develop their imaginative and role play skills in ways that are meaningful to their play.

What the setting needs to do to improve further

To further improve the quality of the early years provision the provider should:

- use all opportunities to support children to expand on their thoughts, interests and what they already know during play
- provide more opportunities to develop children's imaginative skills even further.

Inspection activities

- The inspector observed activities and the quality of teaching throughout the playgroup.
- The inspector sampled a range of documentation, including attendance records, staff suitability checks, the self-assessment information, children's observation, assessment and planning records, and documentation linked to managing children's progress.
- The inspector held discussions with the management team and spoke with children and staff at appropriate times throughout the inspection.
- The inspector took into account the views of parents and carers spoken to on the day of the inspection.

Inspector

Julie Swann

Inspection findings

Effectiveness of the leadership and management is good

Safeguarding is effective. Management and staff fully understand their role in protecting children and are aware of the procedure to follow should there be concerns about the welfare of a child in their care. Managers regularly monitor and track children's progress. They keep a close check on the development of individual children and provide extra support for those with identified needs. Management and staff are well qualified. They have regular opportunities for ongoing staff supervision and professional development. For instance, they attend additional training to help continually improve the quality of their teaching and learning outcomes for children. Management and staff make effective links with schools, additional agencies and other settings children attend to help provide continuity for children's care.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment is good

Staff regularly observe and assess what children can do and how they prefer to learn. They use this information to help plan for children's next steps in learning. Overall, staff promote children's communication and language skills effectively, including those children who are learning English as an additional language. For example, children initiate conversation and staff introduce and model new vocabulary, such as 'transportation,' 'cargo and 'air freight'. Children develop early reading and writing skills. For example, they enjoy sharing and listening to stories, writing their names and using their name cards to self-register. Children have fun as they learn. For instance, they giggle as they use puppets and share with each other that their puppet is a 'one-legged reindeer'.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare are good

Management and staff promote children's well-being, self-esteem and emotional needs well. Children are happy, settled and enter the playgroup confidently. They gain a good understanding of the importance of good hygiene. For example, children know why they need to wash their hands before eating and discuss that germs will give them a 'yucky tummy'. Children are encouraged to become increasingly independent, for instance, by serving their own snacks, pouring their own drinks and putting their coats on. Children learn how to keep themselves safe. For example, staff remind them to be careful during their play and during interactions with other children. Children have daily exercise and fresh air, whatever the weather. They learn about the wider world through activities that help them to understand, value and respect the needs, lives and customs of others.

Outcomes for children are good

Children are making good progress and are developing the skills needed for the next stage in their learning, including school. Children gain many new skills, including in mathematics. For example, they learn mathematical language and confidently count during play.

Setting details

Unique reference number	101530
Local authority	Gloucestershire
Inspection number	1008080
Type of provision	Full-time provision
Day care type	Childcare - Non-Domestic
Registers	Early Years Register
Age range of children	2 - 4
Total number of places	40
Number of children on roll	22
Name of provider	St Mary's Toddler and Playgroup, Tetbury Committee
Date of previous inspection	21 January 2015
Telephone number	01666 503777

St Mary's Playgroup (Tetbury) registered in 2001. The playgroup is located in Tetbury, Gloucestershire. It opens Monday to Friday during term time only. Sessions are from 8.30am until 1pm on Monday, Thursday and Friday, from 8.30am to 3.30pm on Tuesday, and from 9am to 12 noon on Friday. There are five members of childcare staff, of whom four hold relevant childcare qualifications at level 2 or above. This includes the joint play leaders, who hold Qualified Teacher Status. The playgroup provides funded early education for children aged two, three and four years.

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